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1999 HOMECOMING ISSUE



Cowboy Country

News



Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume VI, Issue 3, September 29, 1999

P.I.S.D. students express feelings on prayer issue

Student originated ballots, petition on two campuses send strong message to higher courts and lawmakers

The state's 1,100 school districts have all felt the consequences of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals recent ruling declaring public prayer at school functions, under the establishment clause of the constitution, unconstitutional. Virtually every form of media has reported what innovative school districts across the state are doing to allow students to express their feelings in a solemn and serious manner. The approach used by two campuses of the Plains school district is a graphic indicator of the will of the older student body.

Students at Plains High and Junior High campuses received

a "Hands On" lesson in how the democratic process works last week.

Jim Haynes, Plains ISD Superintendent, told CCN in an interview Thursday, "A number of high school students approached administrators requesting an opportunity to conduct a student body election to determine if the students wanted to bring a solemnizing message prior to athletic and other school events. They were allowed to conduct their election Friday morning. The students drew up a ballot, which was made available to all students in attendance that morning".

The ballots contained three

questions; (1) As part of the morning announcements, do you favor or oppose having a student briefly formalize the opening of the school day by offering a brief solemnization to begin the day? (2) At school athletic events, do you favor or oppose having a student formalize the opening of the event by offering a brief solemnization of the occasion? (3) At school assemblies, do you favor or oppose having a student formalize the opening of the assembly by offering a brief solemnization of the occasion?

One hundred eighty-eight ballots were cast by students. 100% of the votes favored the Turn to Page 4, 'Prayer Issues'

Spartan adds new bus here

Residents of the county needing public transportation now have three Spartan vehicles to help meet their travel needs. Last Tuesday morning, a new and specially equipped bus was showcased in front of the courthouse here in presentation ceremonies staged by the South Plains Community Action Association (SPCAA), the sponsoring organization of Spartan Public Transportation

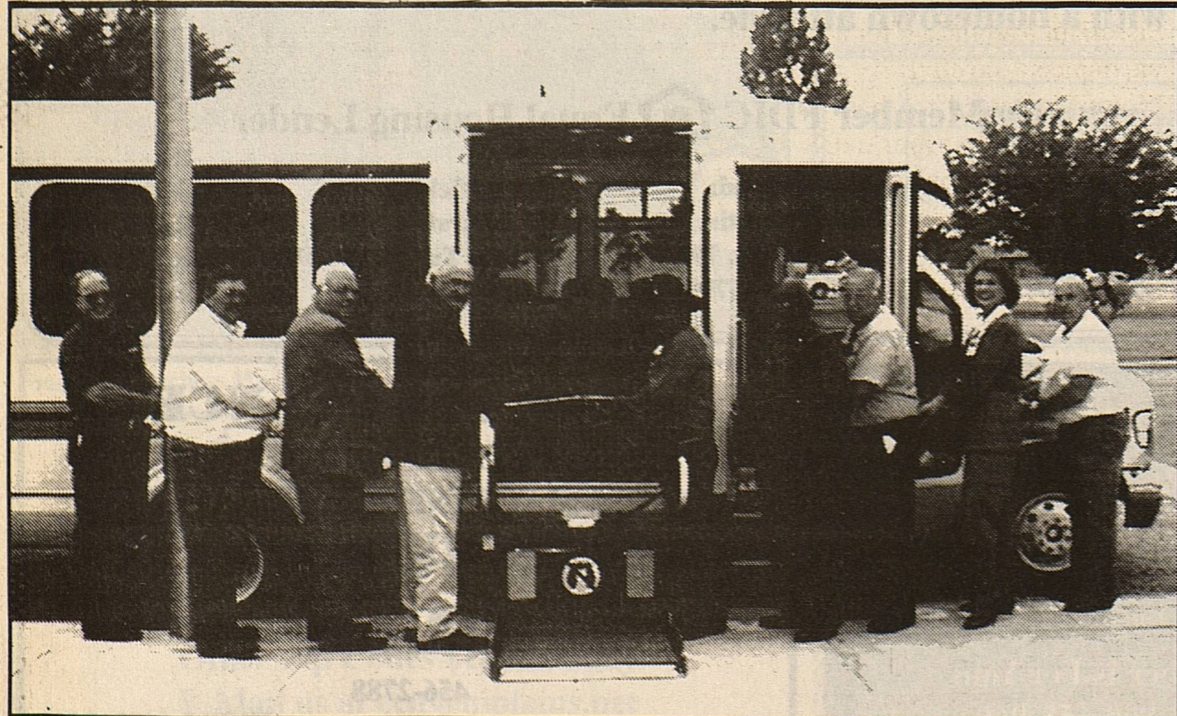
in Levelland.

Among the large crowd attending the dedication were officials representing the county and its two communities, SPCAA and the state.

W.D. Powell, Jr., SPCAA Executive Director, briefly addressed the onlookers, and introduced the officials. Irma Guerra, Transportation Program Director of SPCAA spoke of the need for the addi-

tional bus here. It was pointed out the purchase of the bus, outfitted to handle those customers physically challenged, was made possible through a grant obtained with the assistance of Anne Polk, Transportation Funding Administrator with the Texas Department of Transportation in Lubbock.

For full information about the Spartan bus services, call the Denver City office, 592-5451.



Pictured in ribbon cutting ceremonies were Troy Scott, City of Denver City, Frank Vallie, county board member, SPCAA, W.D. Powell, SPCAA, County Judge Dallas Brewer, Lionel Gonzales, SPCAA board member, Terry County, Anne Polk, TxDot, Owen Schneider, City of Plains.

Homecoming Gala ... lovely young ladies, handsome escorts, and Cowboys down Buffs 28-14

It was a near perfect script - a huge, spirit building bonfire Wednesday night, perfect weather Friday evening, the presentation of the PHS Homecoming Queen and her Court, and a satisfying victory over Petersburg's Buffaloes.

In pre-game ceremonies Friday evening, Plains High Seniors Krystle Blundell, Candace Bowers and Patty Ruiz were nominees for this year's Homecoming Queen, and when the votes were announced, Patty Ruiz received the coveted crown from last year's Queen, Jolyne Burgess.

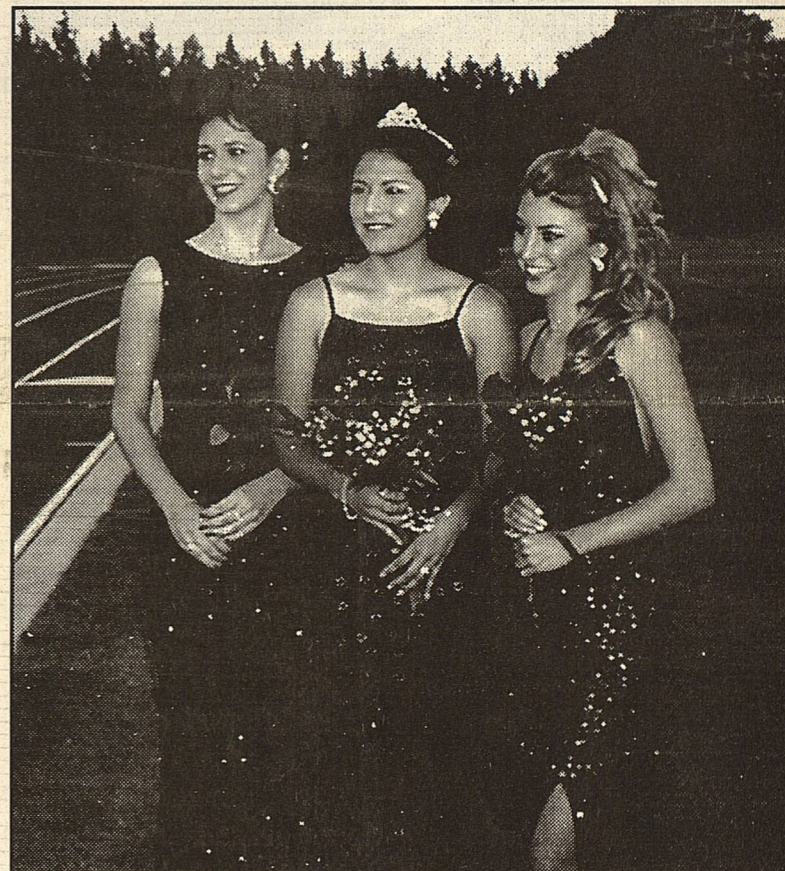
Duchesses in the Queen's court included junior Kari Guetersloh, sophomore Arasley Luna, and freshman Mackenzie Winn.

The Cowboys, badly needing another win to bring their record to 2 and 2, got off to a fast start against the Buffs. The allowed Petersburg a first down in the initial possession, when Josh Bell recovered a Buff fumble at their 19. Jared Bell got 3 yards, and from the 16 Moises Gonzales followed the lines blocking around the left corner for the first TD, and Aaron Cain's kick put the Cowboys up 7-0.

The Buffs received the kickoff at the 49. Josh Bell promptly covered another Buff fumble their first play from scrimmage. From the 45, Kyle Sisson hit Aaron Cain for a 12 yard pass, Jared Bell and Moises advanced the ball on the ground, and from the 3, Moises again followed the left side linemens blocks into the endzone for his second score. Cains kick put the 'boys up 14-0.

The defense held the Buffs in their possession, but when the Cowboys got the ball at the 41, the cloud of mistakes fell on them. In less than two minutes, they were penalized twice for holding, for delay of game, and a false start, and suffered two incomplete passes.

In the second period, both Jared and Josh Bell and Moises Gonzales found big holes to push the ball to the Buff seven,



Seniors Candace Bowers, Queen Patty Ruiz, Krystle Blundell



Jared Bell off for good gain around left corner

but a fumble ended in disastrous results; A quick burst over right guard by a Buff runner put them back in the game 14-6 at halftime.

The Cowboys took the second half kickoff, and reeled off two quick first downs, but the drive stalled at the 11. The Cowboy 'D' held the Buffs to one first down, then forced a punt. The offense proved live and well, and Jared Bell got good yardage on four carries to the 6, then went over right guard for the TD, and Cain's third PA kick put the Cowboys up 21-6

In the final quarter, the Buffs fought back, and in 12 plays, rumbled 71 yards to score, and the 2 point pass made the score 21-14.

The Cowboys again took possession at the 41, and the linemen came alive, and good blocking allowed big gains by Jared and Josh Bell and Kyle Sisson. Sisson hit David Luna for a good gain, and at the 6 yard line, Sisson found Colt Winn open for a touchdown toss, and Cain's fourth kick produced the final 28-14 score.

First County Bale of Cotton



The first bale of the 1999 Cotton crop was ginned by Yoakum County Coop Gin Thursday evening. The 504 pound bale was produced by D & D Farms.

One vehicle rollover



Classic Cable Announces Scholarship Fund

Classic Cable recently notified Plains High School their annual scholarship program is underway. Classic Cable developed this fund in 1996 to invest in the future of the communities they serve, and support students in their pursuit of excellence.

During the 1998-1999 school year, the cable company received hundreds of qualified applications and awarded over \$30,000 to 100 students who demonstrated academic and extracurricular leadership, both in and out of the classroom. They hope to reach more students and have a bigger impact in the communities we serve this year.

The application process will begin immediately and run until January 1, 2000. Applications will then be reviewed and winners will be chosen prior to March 15, 2000 and will be announced no later than April 1, 2000. For more information

contact the High School counselor.

J P Court

September 17, 1999 - The following is a summary of cases heard and bonds set in Justice of the Peace Court Precinct One, with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

53 traffic
Cases filed: 53 traffic cases, 1 civil case, 1 class C simple assault, 1 juvenile warning.

Bonds set: Motion to revoke probation-held until hearing. Failure to appear-\$2,000 bond. Evading arrest-held for Border Patrol. Assault causing bodily injury-held for Border Patrol. Unauthorized use of vehicle-\$5,000 bond. Driving while intoxicated-\$2,500 plus conditions. 3 cases-Assault causing bodily injury-\$1,500 bond. Driving while license suspended-\$500 bond. Purchase/furnish alcohol to a minor-\$3,500 bond. Possession of Marijuana under 2 ounces-held for Border Patrol, 2 cases-Fugitive from Justice/Oklahoma-\$5,000 bond. 3 cases-Issuance of bad check-\$828.23 total fines.

This Dodge pickup, one of the large fleet used by zone and district boll weevil eradication personnel here, is shown shortly after it left the road and overturned about half a mile from the district office at the airport last Wednesday morning.

The vehicle was driven by Shannon Squyres, one of the weevil trappers, on the way to her work area shortly after 8 a.m. DPS Trooper Ron Shugart, who worked the accident, said it appeared Squyres realized she was veering from the road, over corrected her steering and ended in the deep ditch.

Squyres was taken by ambulance to the hospital in Denver City, and details of possible injuries were unavailable.

Emergency Vehicle Operations Class Set

A three day class in Emergency Vehicle Operations for all licensed peace officers is scheduled October 19-21 at the driving range at the South Plains College Reese Center campus.

Classes will meet 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. October 19-20 and 8:00 a.m. - noon and 9:00 p.m. - 1 a.m. October 21.

The police emergency driving course is a three day program designed to train police officers to properly handle a vehicle during emergency driving situations, said Jimmy Richey, instructor of law enforcement at SPC.

"The course is a realistic, medium stress competency based task related driving school that gives the student about 18 hours of actual driv-

Emergency Farm Loan Applications Being Accepted

Applications for emergency farm loans for losses caused by extreme fire hazards are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Seminole, Texas, FSA Farm Loan Manager, Richard G. Young, said today.

On September 1, 1999, President Clinton declared an Emergency disaster declaration in Texas based on damages and losses caused by extreme fire hazards. As a result of this declaration, 227 Texas counties were declared eligible for Federal disaster assistance including Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency (EM) loans for eligible family farmers. Gaines, Yoakum, and Andrews counties are three of the 227 counties eligible for loans to cover part of actual production losses resulting from extreme fire hazards which occurred from August 1, 1999 and continuing until April 24, 2000.

Young said farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 80 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue in business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the inter-

est rate is 3.75 percent.

"As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan," said Young. Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance Program will have to figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

"Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until April 14, 2000, but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing and possible over into the new farming season," Young said.

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who are U.S. citizens and to farming partnerships, corporations or co-operatives in which U.S. citizens hold a majority interest.

The FSA office in Seminole is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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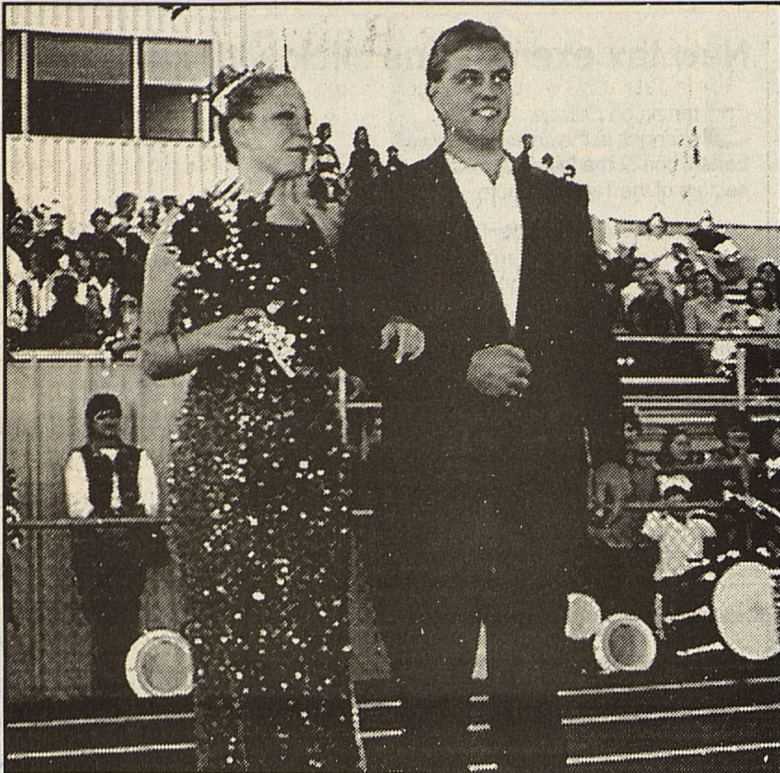
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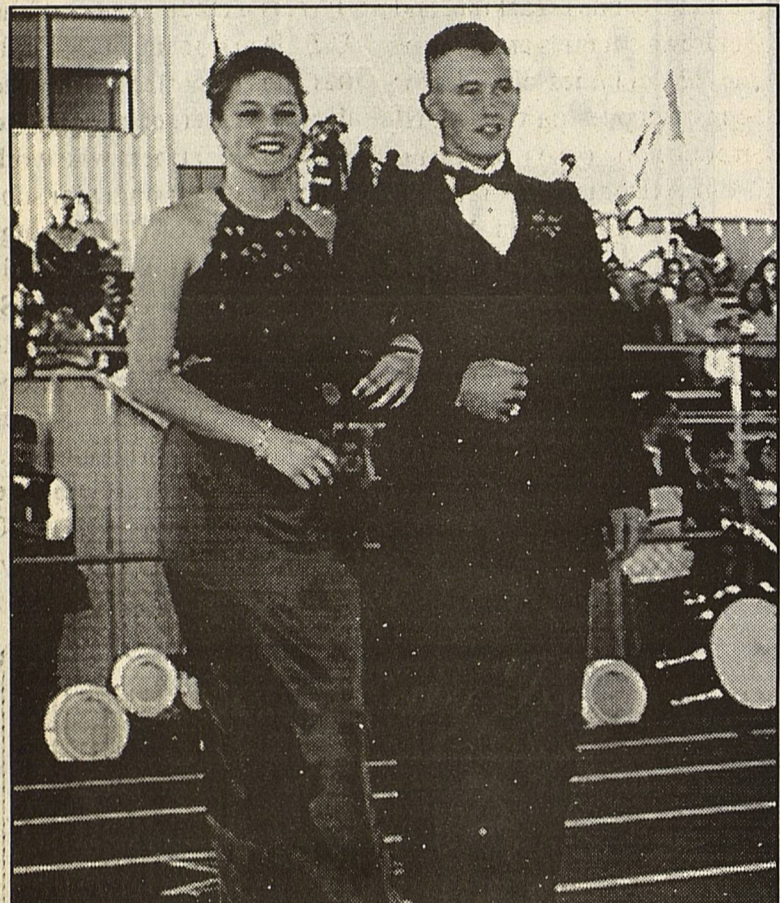
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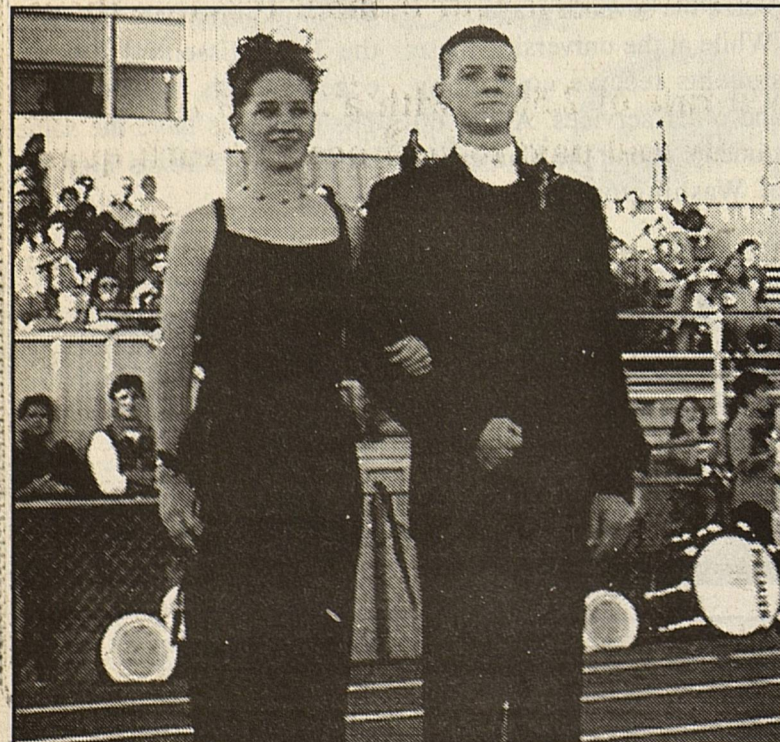
Last years Queen Jolyne Burgess, escorted by her brother, Coley



Junior Duchess Kari Guetersloh, escorted by Keith Jackson



Sophomore Arasley Luna, escorted by Stan Caballero



Freshman Duchess Mackenzie Winn, escorted by Jason Swann

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PISD Volleyball Recap

Junior High:
 7th Lady Wranglers- The younger ladies lost to Levelland last week, 15-11 and 15-8, but played well enough to earn praise from Coach Haragan, who said they are making mistakes, but accomplishing things which will make them better players in following years.

8th Lady Wranglers- The 8th girls had a good outing against Levelland, winning 14-16, 15-9 and 15-11. Coach Diaz said they were outstanding in their serves and consistency, and Moriah Traweek served a total of 15 points.

JV Cowgirls- Gold Team: On September 21, the Gold girls downed Denver City 15-13 and 15-12. They next defeated Wink Sept. 25 15-17, 15-0 and 15-5 to extend their season record to 10 and 4.

The other JV team fell to D.c. 14-16 and 9-15, but came back strong to down Wink 9-15, 15-0 and 15-9. Their season record is now 8 and 7.
Varsity Cowgirls- The Cowgirls fell to D.C. 2-8, and came back to tie 15-15. Kari had 4 kills, Patty 12 digs, Michaela 3 blocks, Laura 9 assists. They lost the opener to Wink 5-7, and tied 15-15. Candace had 6 kills, Patty 16 digs, Candace 4 blocks, and Laura 12 assists.

Cross Country Meet

Plains ISD hosted the annual cross country meet at the county park Saturday morning, and the event drew a strong field of 14 schools. Following is a summary of results form all divisions:

Jr. High Boys- Plains
 Aldo Fierro 16th, Payton Bean 19th
 Daniel Estrada 29th, Breck Hamm 35th.

JV Boys-
 Jonathan DeLa Rosa 16yh, 20.19
Varsity Girls-
 Kristen Gray 48th, 15:30, Arasley Luna 52nd, 16:01, Kayla Willis, 54th, 16:10, Jill Gray 58th, 16:33, Kenia Molina 66th, 17:37

Varsity Boys-
 The Cowboys made a strong showing in the big meet, finishing second with 54 points. Whiteface won the division with 51 points. Felipe Reyna was 4th, 17:50, David Granados 12th, 18:34, Jarod Newland 17th, 18:55, Manuel Hernandez 20th, 19:63, Chisum Deaton 22nd, 19:07, Nathan Hays 27th, 19:58, and Chris Willis 36th, 21:16.

PHS Student of the Week

Student of the Week is Angie Longoria, a senior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Longoria. She was nominated by Mr. Portillo, who said, " A leadership position is not



Cross Country girls team, Kayla Willis, Kristen Gray, Jill Gray, Arasley Luna, Kenia Molina



Cowboy Varsity and Junior Varsity getting ready for grueling 3 mile run

always easy, especially when you must lead others your own age. The three D's are required; Dedication, Determination and Discipline. It is also about attitude - a leader must have 90% attitude and 10% skill. Angie has the ability to lead students toward the right goals, whether keeping their grades up or discipline in rehearsals. She also knows her faults and tries to fix them in order to be successful.



Emily Blair chosen to All Region Choir

Plains High Junior Emily Blair was chosen to be a participant in the '99 All-Region Choir. She is the daughter of Royce and Cynthia Blair, and was sponsored by Ray Portillo.

Region 16 of the Texas Music Educators Association held auditions in Levelland last Saturday, and 16 area schools were represented. Students were judged individually on prepared music selections, and were judged on sightreading.

Twelve students were chosen for eight voice parts for the Region Choir, which will perform at Monterey High in Lubbock November 13.

Following the Region Concert, participants will be eligible to audition for the next step towards being chosen for the prestigious TMEA All State Choir, to perform at the state convention in San Antonio February 9-12, 2000.



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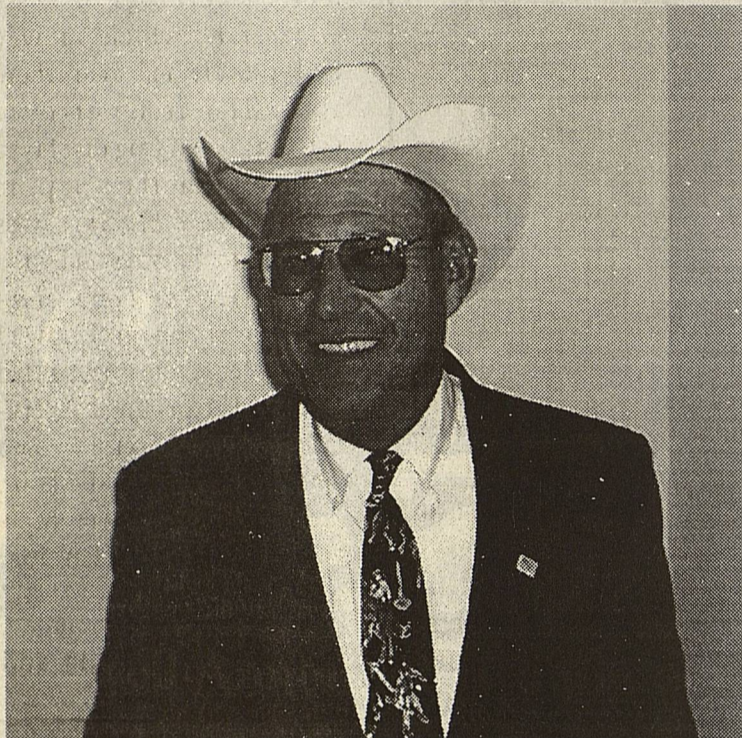
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Powell Announces Candidacy

To the Voters of Precinct 3 and Yoakum County:
I would like to announce my intention to seek the position of County Commissioner, Precinct 3, subject to the March Democratic Primary of 2000. I am a 3rd generation farmer and rancher and a member of Plains United Methodist Church. My Grandmother Lillian Hurst Luna arrived in what is now Yoakum County in 1903. My parents are Wilma and the late Bill Harris Powell. My wife is the former Linda Grau of Grady, N.M. and we have two children, Air Force 1st Lt. Lebert Powell of Davis Monthon AFB, Arizona and Jo Lena Wall of Plains, Tx., a Physician Assistant in the office of Dr. Larry Boyd in Denver City.
My experience includes serving on the Plains Independent School District Board, Yoakum County Appraisal Review Board, Yoakum County Coop Gin Board, Plains Youth Center Board and various other leadership positions.
Currently I am a regional director of Plains Coop Oil Mill and serve as a national Cotton Board alternate. I am a 1968 graduate of New Mexico State University in Agricultural Economics. My knowledge of the tax base and taxing structure of this county is extensive. Having lived in Yoakum County all my life, I have seen oil and agriculture make many changes in order to survive. My background qualifies me to work with the citizens of Yoakum County to make it a better place to live and raise our families for the next millennium. Thanks for your support.

Ty Earl Powell



A los Votantes de Recinto 3 y Condado de Yoakum: Me gustaria anunciar mi intencion para buscar la posicion de Comisionado del Condado Recinto 3, sujeto al Democratico Primero de marzo 2000. Yo soy granjero de la generacion 3 y ranchero y un miembro de de la Iglesia metodista de Plains. Mi Abuela Lillian Hurst Luna llevo a lo que es ahora el Condado de Yoakum en 1903. Mis padres son Wilma y el difunto Bill Harris Powell. Mi esposa es la Linda Grau de Grady, Nuevo Mexico. Mosotros tenemos dos niños, el Teniente #1 de la fuerza aerea, Lebert Powell de Davis Monthon AFB, Jo Lena Wall de Plains, Tx., una asistente en la oficina del Doctor Larry Boyd en Denver City. Mi experiencia incluye sirviendo en junta del Distrito Escolar Indiente, la junta de apreciacion y revision del condado de Yoakum, la junta del ginebra de Plains y varias otras posiciones de direccion. Actualmente yo soy director regional de la ginebra de aceite molino y sirvo como un alternante de la Universidad Estaral de Nuevo Mexico. Educado en Economia Agricultura. Mi conocimiento de la base del impuesto y el sistema de coleccion de este condado es extenso. Habido vivido en el condado de Yoakum toda mi vida, yo he visto las industrias del aciete y la agricultura hacer muchos cambios para sobrevivir. Mi fondo me califica trabajar con los ciudadanos del condado de Yoakum para hacerle un lugar mejor para vivir y criar a nuestras familias durante el proximo milenio. Gracias por su apoyo.

Ty Earl Powell

From Page 1, 'Prayer Issues'.....

solemnizing prior to school athletic events, 90% favored a solemnization message during morning announcements, and 91% favored solemnizing the opening of school assemblies.

The high school students were asked on the ballot which group of students they favored to organize the delivery of the solemnizing message. High school Student Council members received 57% of the votes cast.

Prior to Friday night's homecoming football game against Petersburg, Superintendent Haynes announced the action of the student body, and a disclaimer stating school administrators and Board members had played no part in the election.

High school Senior Jessica Flores then took the mike and delivered a brief solemnizing message. An interesting moment followed when the visiting Petersburg fans, standing

for the message, cheered and applauded the proceedings.

Junior High students also expressed their concerns about the school prayer issue. Junior High Principal Eddie Carter said a group of students drafted a proclamation expressing their views on the subject, passed it around between classes for supporters to sign. The petition, containing the names of 160 students, will be mailed to their congressional members in Washington, D.C., and other elected officials, read as follows; "Dear Elected Official,

"We, the Junior High students of Plains, Texas, are concerned about the fact prayer is no longer allowed on our school premises.

"In the First Amendment, it states the people of America have the right to freedom of speech, religion, press, and the right to assemble. This includes the students of Plains. In school, we are taught about these amendments.

"Doesn't it seem to you, when there is no prayer at the beginning of a football game, more injuries occur? Such as Adam Garcia's, one of our star players, who is now out the rest of the season with a knee injury.

"Not only are we not allowed to pray at football games, but are not allowed prayer at bonfires, homecomings, graduations, pep talks or any other occasion, when it is a school event and on campus.

"We need your support on this issue. The total number of our students who agree with this letter is 160 of 168.

"Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Ashley Vantine and
Stacie Alldredge,
Student Representatives"

Carter said he thought the students had shown great initiative in creating the petition, and by forwarding their thoughts and desires to their elected officials had learned a valuable lesson in how government works.

An appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court on the circuit court ruling has been filed by the Santa Fe School District, near Houston.

Thank You!

Thanks to all of you for your prayers, thoughts, cards and food during and after my recent surgery. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is over whelming. It's hard to lose with winners like you pulling for me.

May God repay you with his richest blessings.

I covet your continued support.

Thanks,
Jim Rice

'Connection' Making Plans For 2000

Yoakum County Connection directors met September 13 at their Denver City building for a brainstorming session on future goals and projects. Rep. Gary Walker acted as moderator for the group present. Attorney Bill Helwig was elected to replace resigning director Jamey Collinsworth. Debbie Rushing will chair a Connection Christmas tree decorating contest to be held in conjunction with late night shopping in Denver City and open house. In order to schedule the Connection building with art activities and events, Tonya Lowrey Patton of Plains has been hired as a part time grant researcher and executive director. She will also supervise the Summer Youth Program again.

Jeannette Head will again chair the Yoakum County Watermelon Round-Up to be held September 2, 2000. "It is hoped that our planned activities will increase interest and participation. Currently 75 paid memberships by families or businesses help support our activities," said Linda Powell, Connection chair. Both Head and treasurer L.J. Sanders were recognized at the Round-Up thank you luncheon held on September 14, 1999. The lunch was catered by Yoakum County 4-H Adult Leaders. A future workshop is planned by Texas Alliance for Education and the Arts between now and Christmas to facilitate bringing artists into the schools and focus vision and narrow goals for the next 5 years. Interested participants may contact any director or Patton for more information.

Please Note !

To allow us a brief vacation to attend a family reunion, CCN will not publish the October 20 issue of the paper. The next issue will be published October 27. We thank each of you for your consideration

Keeping an eye on Texas

New tax exemptions click with Internet

Starting on October 1, 1999, changes in the sales tax law will benefit one of the fastest growing sectors of the Texas economy.

- One section exempts the first \$25 of a monthly charge for Internet access service from state and local sales tax.
- Another section exempts 20 percent of the value of data processing and information services from state and local sales taxes. These services include such Internet-related activities as designing and maintaining Web pages.

SOURCE: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, (www.window.state.tx.us)

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Brightest Kids Get Early Entrance To Universities

A program at the University of Washington allows bright kids to enter college early. After attending a transition school, which compresses four years of high school into 30 weeks, students may enroll as full time university students.

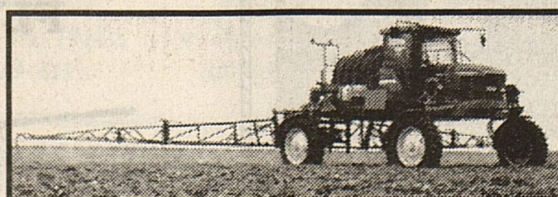
The program is open to gifted students as young as 10 and on older than 14, who have completed the seventh grade.

While at the university, these students receive counseling and other services. About 60 students attend the University of Washington through the

Early Entrance program.

The University of Texas (UT) and Texas Tech University are among a small group of universities that award high school diplomas. The program at UT began in February 1999 and enables students to take state approved courses by mail, fax, audio, video or computer. Each student must pass TAAS requirements and meet the Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills requirements. The diplomas have the same standing as a Texas high diploma.

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Lifelines & Styles

Senior Citizens Corner

Attendance at the Center has been very good lately. Thanks to all for using the Center. We have new people coming, and our wish is that they enjoy the Center and will keep coming back everyday.

Visitors this week were Barbara Mobily and Joyce Caraby, cousins of Elmer Hannaman.

Everyone was happy to see Estelle Ivey back for lunch, and recovering nicely after her misfortune.

Bruce and Ann Greer home for a while. Some others are still on vacation or, preparing to go for a while.

Pep Turner still in St. Mary's.

Changing time for the clock is almost here.

See you next week,
Smitty

CSW Offers Special Course On Behavior Intervention

College of the Southwest will offer a special course entitled "Behavior Intervention Plans: How to Write and Implement Them" on Saturday, October 2, and Sunday, October 9, at the College. The course will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m. each day. "Behavior Intervention Plans," designated as EDU 4751/5751 or SPED 4751/5751, can be taken as either an undergraduate or a graduate class.

Students with special needs often need behavior strategies in place in order to succeed. This workshop will guide teachers or parents in assessing students and then in writing plans to meet students' needs.

"Behavior Intervention Plan" will be offered for one hour of college credit at a cost of \$143 and will be taught by Judy Cagle. For more information, please contact College of the Southwest at 6610 Lovington Highway or call 392-6561.

New Books At The Library

Fiction

Saving Graces-Patricia Gaffney, *McNally's Dilemma*-Lawrence Sanders, *Hearts in Atlantis*-Stepgen King, *The Quiet Game*-Greg Iles, *Revelation Unveiled*-Tim Lahave, *All The Kings Men*-Linda Howard, *Pillow Of Stone*-Al Lacy, *True At First Light*-Ernest Hemingway, *The Alibi*-Sandra Brown, *The Soldier Spies*-W.E.B. Griffin, *The Girls Guide To Hunting And Fishing*-Melissa Bank, *Household Gods*-Judith

Tarr, *The Visitation*-Frank Peretti, *The Innocents Within*-Robert Daley, *The Quiet Little Woman*-Louisa May Alcott, *Leota's Garden*-Francine Rivers, *All That Glitters*-Gilbert Morris

Non-Fiction

The Senior Texas Legal Guide-Paul Premack, *101 Horsemanship & Equitation Patterns*-Cherry Hill, *Understanding Your Horse*-Lesley Bayley, *Breaking Your Horse*-W. Sumner, *Moses*-Charles Swindoll

4-H Horse Club Awards Meeting



Buckle winners included, L-R, Kimbe Jones, Chance Kitchens, Luke Sellers, Brett Squyres, Leo Sellers, and Troy Parrish.

Members of the Yoakum County 4-H Horse Club were guests at an annual awards gathering in the Community Center here September 19, 1999.

In the club All-Around competition in three age groups, 1st and 2nd place winners received trophy belt buckles: 8 years and under: 1st place-Luke Sellers, 2nd place-Troy Parrish, 3rd place-Morgan Willis.

9-13 years old; 1st place-Chance Kitchens, 2nd place-Leo Sellers, 3rd place-Blake Parrish

14-19 years old: 1st place-Kimberlee Jones, 2nd place-Brett Squyres, 3rd place-Staci Tuggle.

4-H club members also received pins for their number of years membership; Honorary: Troy Parrish, Chelsea Sellers, Luke Sellers, Morgan

Willis. 2nd year: Leo Sellers, Skye Sellers, Trey Sellers, Chris Willis, Kayla Willis. 3rd year: Blake Parrish. 4th year: Evan Cain, Amanda Perry, T.J. Kitchens. 5th year: Chance Kitchens. 6th year: Brett Squyres. 8th year: Kimberlee Jones. 9th year: Staci Tuggle.

* A special 'Helping Hand' award was presented to Lester Kerrick.*

Library Filmtime

Eight boys and girls attended the weekly filmtime at the Yoakum County Library on Wednesday, September 22. Volunteer mother, Kim Gass, read the books: *Better Move Over*, *Frog* and *I Took My Frog to the Library*. She also showed the group a pop-up book called *Frogs in Three Dimensions* which showed the life cycle and facts about frogs. The group enjoyed watching a real frog displayed to them. Another pop-up book, *I Love to Eat Bugs*, was shared with the boys and girls. The movie, *The Lone Chipmunks*, was shown followed by the pledges to the United States and Texas flags. Everybody participated in Toddlerobics to end the hour. Those attending were Matthew and Aaron Ramos, Clayton Gass, Marcy Banfield, Lucas Hernandez, Iris and Kevin Mejia and Arista Davis.

Reminder

Chamber of Commerce will meet the 1st Wednesday of the month.

Showet honoring
Zachary Ian Harris
new son of
John & Heather Harris
Sunday, October 10, 1999
2:00 - 3:30 P.M.
in the home of
Mrs. Linda Wall
108 Ave. G

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Celebration

Brother Bill's
30th Anniversary
in the
Ministry
Sunday, October 3
First Baptist Church

There will be special guests, dinner on the grounds,
and a special music service following lunch.

Remember
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From The Hack

When I was a very young and semi-innocent lad, I was in the habit of eagerly counting the days until momentous occasions, like my birthday, and Christmas.

Now, I'm not nearly so eager for either event to come around. The Bride, on the other hand, is actually marking days off the calendar, in anticipation of when we leave for her annual family reunion. You remember, our annual trek to the deep East Texas Piney Woods, where her kin eat millet for breakfast, and quaintly tell us goodbye with "Y'all come back, y'all heah?"

I am sure when the big day that Saturday comes around, I will experience my usual and normal reaction in seeing all those kinfolk - "Oh, my God, they all look so much older!" This trip will probably not exactly follow previous reunion scenarios. The one brother-in-law, he of the severe irregularity fame, the one I usually spend one day with whacking a golf ball, recently underwent what he describes as "Extremely major and serious surgery". If the full truth were known, it probably wasn't near so major as my recent knife experience.

I feel certain he will tell me

one of two things; The Doc told him he couldn't play for awhile, or, more probably, he will tell me he is still so sore from the knife he can only muster up a half swing, and I will have to give him a bunch of strokes in our friendly wager. Sorry, Zig, it ain't gonna work. If I can't play golf down there I'll be forced to visit the gambling boats in Shreveport twice, just to make sure they're still afloat, don't you know.

We've run a number of "Church Bloopers" taken from the internet in this space recently, and suddenly I'm inundated with more of the same from readers who have too little to do with their time. A few examples;

"Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping. Brink your husband". "Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to some who doesn't care for you".

"The peace-making meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled because of a conflict".

"Tonight's sermon - 'What is Hell?'. Come early and hear our choir practice".

"Barbara C. remains in the hospital and needs blood donors. She is also having trouble sleeping, and would like tapes of Brother Bill's sermons".

"Announcement in bulletin for prayer and fasting conference - 'The cost for attending the Fasting & Prayer conference includes all meals'".

Student Council seeks your help

A recent survey conducted by TEED, Texas Energy and Environment Development Committee of the Student Council, showed 42% of Plains High School students have a littering problem, which means that they litter everyday or once or twice a week.

The TEED Committee is responsible for keeping a two-mile stretch of highway east of Plains litter free through the Adopt A Highway program. Council members recently spent a Saturday morning cleaning the roadside to begin the project.

Researchers calculated that 55% of all littering is intentional,

with individuals dropping or tossing discarded products. The remaining 45% of roadside littering happens unintentionally, like trash blowing out of the back of a pickup. It is estimated that it takes approximately one million years for a glass bottle, 200-500 years for an aluminum can, and one to five years for a cigarette butt to decompose. A conviction for littering is a misdemeanor that is put on the offender's driving record.

The council would appreciate community members' assistance in putting trash where it belongs.

Thank You,
TEED, Plains Student Council

Admittedly, to many people the game of golf is similar to eating boiled kidney or drinking buttermilk; You either detest, despise or hate them, or you love them. I cannot honestly claim I love golf, as too many times while attempting to master the stupid game I have temporarily cursed and hated it.

Nevertheless, this weekend past, a great number of Americans may have gained a bit of respect for the sport, and never let anyone tell you it is not a legitimate sport.

The American Ryder Cup Team, competing against Europe's finest ball whackers, according to most media sources, were assured the loser's role, trailing the Europeans by four very hard to earn points in the final Sunday outing. In the prior two days con-

test, our best looked a bit pale against the guys across the Atlantic, and the smart "Vegas" money favored a rout by the Euros by considerable odds.

If you didn't watch the long, epic contest, it will be very hard to comprehend the odds the Yank guys overcame in winning the semi-annual and highly prestigious event. It was a true, heroic, underdog performance, as worthy of adulations as the USA's honored Womens Soccer Team in their gritty world win.

Now, if I could only manage to consistently shoot Bogey Golf the rest of the year, I would be as thrilled as the guys on our Ryder Golf Team..

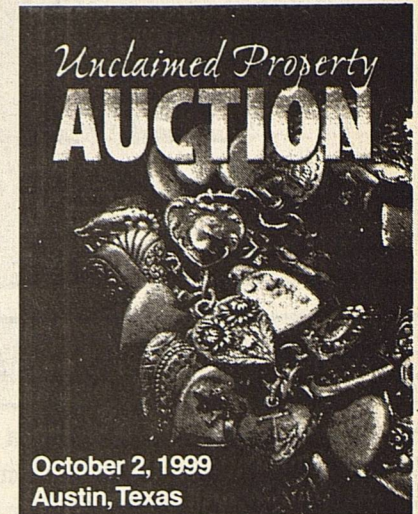
Sept. 15, 1883 - First classes held at University of Texas

Keeping an eye on Texas

Going, going... gone

Unclaimed property goes on the auction block at 10:00 a.m., October 2, at Travis County Exposition Center, 7311 Decker Lane, in Austin, Texas. More than 90,000 items, including jewelry, coins, and antiques, are valued in excess of \$315,000. For more information call 1-800-321-2274, or go to: www.window.state.tx.us.

SOURCE: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, (www.window.state.tx.us).



October 2, 1999
Austin, Texas

NOTICE OF SALE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

The City of Plains will accept sealed bids for the sale of the following surplus equipment:

- 1 - 1988 Chevrolet 3/4 ton Pickup (64,123 miles)
- 1 - 386 Insight Computer w/monitor & keyboard
- 1 - 486 DTK Computer w/monitor & keyboard
- 1 - IBM RS6000 server w/external tape backup, external hard drive, and workstation

Bids should be submitted to the Plains City Hall before 5:00 p.m. on October 11, 1999. Items can be inspected at the Plains City Hall located at 601 11th Street.

The city reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities that will benefit the city.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Four County Shared Services Arrangement intends to destroy records of students who have received special education services. Records to be destroyed are for persons who received Special Education, including speech therapy services prior to school year 1991-1992. These records include those located in the Four County Shared Services Arrangement office at 601 Tahoka Road, Brownfield, Texas. Records herein describe students receiving special education in the following school districts; Brownfield, Denver City, Loop, O'Donnell, Plains, Seagraves, Tahoka, Union, and Welman. Legal parent/guardian or adult student with disabilities may request copies of these records by contacting the Four County Shared Services Arrangement office at 601 Tahoka Road, Brownfield, Texas 79316, phone number 806-637-8448, by October 30, 1999.

AVISO

Aviso esta dado que Four County Shared Services Arrangement tiene intencion de destruir documentos de estudiantes que recibieron servicio de Education Especial. Documentos que deben ser destruidos son para personas que recibieron educacion especial, incluyendo servicios de terapia de lenguaje hasta el ano escolar 1991-92. Los unicos documentos que van estar destruidos son los que estan en la oficina de Four County Shared Services Arrangement en 601 Tahoka Road en Brownfield, Texas. Documentos en esto son de estudiantes que recibieron servicio de distrito en seguida; Brownfield, Denver City, Loop, O'Donnell, Plains, Seagraves, Tahoka, Union, and Welman. Padres/guardian legal o estudiantes adultos con incapacidades fisica/mentales pueden pedir copias de sus documentos. Pueden llamar o escribir a Carlton Buesing en la oficina de Four County Shared Services Arrangement, 601 Tahoka Road, Brownfield, Texas 79316, Numero de telefono es 806-637-8448, antes de Octubre 30, 1999.

Notice For Bids

The State Of Texas County Of Yoakum

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors for the Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District will receive bids until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 8, 1999, for the purchase of quality pre-owned Cessna 340 airplane. Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in regular session of the Board on Tuesday, October 12, 1999.

Contact Sandy Land UWCD for specifications. Bid price will be paid from surplus budgeted funds.

For bid forms, please contact the Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District, P.O. Box 130, Plains, Texas 79355. (telephone 806/456-2155).

Sealed bids should be marked "Cessna 340 Airplane" on the envelope and be mailed or delivered to Sandy Land UWCD, P.O. Box 130, Plains, Texas 79355. No Facsimile copies will be accepted.

The Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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